REMARKS

The examiner is respectfully requested to consider this preliminary amendment prior to examination of the application. No new matter has been added.

Please grant any required extensions of time and charge any fees due in connection with this response to our deposit account no. 04-1425.

Respectfully submitted,

DORSEY & WHITNEY LLP.

Dated: March 2, 2000

BY: John W. Ryan
Reg. No. 33,771

Dorsey & Whitney LLP 1001 Pennsylvente Are., NW ruste 300 South Was Longton, DC 20004 (202) 824-8800